

CEO E-Briefing

A weekly report to City Council and the community



July 22, 2011

No. 5

City to explore joint services with Newport Beach, Huntington Beach

The City has engaged in preliminary discussions with executive staff from our neighboring cities of Huntington Beach and Newport Beach to seek service-sharing options for improved effectiveness and streamlined operations. The discussions led to a narrowing of possibilities resulting in five services that the three cities wanted to explore.

To fully evaluate service requirements, possible cost savings, and implementation needs of a shared services model for each service, further analysis and discussion is required. The areas identified were:

- Police Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) services;
- Lifeguard services;
- Jail services;
- Animal control services;
- Police and fire dispatch services.

To facilitate an in-depth analysis of the potential for shared services between neighboring cities, a contract has been negotiated with Management Partners, Inc., which will prepare a study. Each city will pay a third of the \$81,675 contract (\$27,225 will be Costa Mesa's share).

The overall goal of the project is to assess the initial and long-term costs and savings for sharing municipal service delivery with our neighbors. The study will start within the next few weeks and is scheduled to be completed within five months. We'll make public the report as soon as it's completed.

Tom Hatch, chief executive officer, City of Costa Mesa

On the calendar this week

- July 22 **TODAY** The **Orange County Fair** continues through Aug. 14 ...
- July 23 **TUESDAY** The **City's Investment Oversight Committee** meets at 3:30 in City Hall conference room 5A to review the Treasurer's Report for month and quarter ending June 30 ... Also, City Attorney's Office will give an update on the City's Lehman Brothers investment ... **Concerts in the Park** continues at 5:30 p.m. in Fairview Park with live swing, blues and oldies music with **Flattop Tom and his Jumpcats**, gourmet food trucks, the beer and wine garden and games for the kids.
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Comments or suggestions, please contact wlobdell@ci.costa-mesa.ca.us



City of Costa Mesa



Costa Mesa City Hall

CEO's Office

Costa Mesa students visit sister city in Australia

Longtime Costa Mesa resident Sue Smith (left) started the Sister City exchange program in 1997 to bring together educators and students from Estancia High School and schools in Wyndham, Australia. This month, Smith (shown here with Assistant Director Lisa Grant) traveled with Estancia High student ambassadors Danielle Ulrich, Adriana Navarro, Natalie Castaneda, Sarah Snell, Cesar Torres, Alex Tenno, Sierra Gordon and Sandra Ruiz.



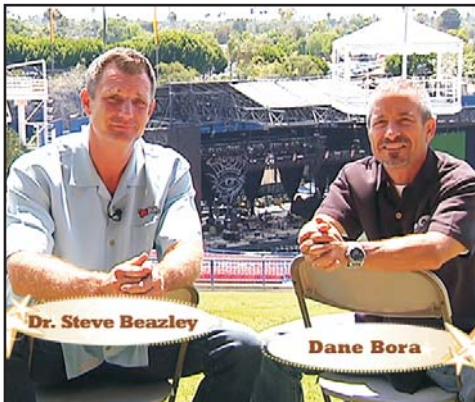
State's raid of redevelopment agencies challenged

The **League of California Cities** and the **California Redevelopment Assn.** (CRA) this week filed a petition with the state **Supreme Court** challenging the constitutionality of two Assembly bills that would dissolve redevelopment agencies unless they "opt-in" by paying annual fees to the state.

City of Costa Mesa will pay an estimated \$1.5 million the first year and \$400,000 every year thereafter, with an additional payment to the school district. The City's **Finance Department** is preparing an in-depth financial analysis to determine exactly what the city's long-term liability is should it decide to opt-in.

The lawsuit also requested that the California Supreme Court issue a stay to prevent the legislation from going into effect until the Court can rule on the merits of these claims.

The basic claim in the lawsuit is that bills violate **Proposition 22**, which prohibits politicians in Sacramento from seizing, transferring, suspending or interfering with revenue dedicated to local government. The revenues protected by Proposition 22 specifically include the annual increments of property taxes allocated to California's redevelopment agencies.



CMTV 24 and OC Fair join forces for '@thefair' show

CMTV 24 and the **OC Fair** have partnered to produce "@thefair," a weekly, 10-minute program that features behind-the-scenes looks at the Fair. Hosted by Costa Mesa's **Dane Bora** and Fair Chief Executive Officer **Steve Beazley**, you can watch the lively show [here](#).



Secret Spot

Somewhere in Costa Mesa you might recognize this bit of local scenery.

Hint: If this spot rings a bell for you, you're making history.

To get the whole picture, see [page 4](#).

Notes from the CEO's Office

An Orange County judge issued a preliminary injunction late last week prohibiting the City of Costa Mesa from outsourcing jobs to private companies until a lawsuit filed against the City by the **Costa Mesa City Employees' Assn.** (CMCEA) is heard ... No trial date has been set for the civil suit, which seeks to halt the outsourcing plan ... The ruling doesn't prohibit the City from contracting jobs with the **County of Orange**, neighboring cities and other public agencies or exploring the viability of outsourcing services to private companies ... Due to lack of agenda items, the City Council meeting on Aug. 16 has been cancelled ...

Development Services

Connell Chevrolet to get a tune-up

Connell Chevrolet in the 2800 block of Harbor Boulevard is ready to undergo a major façade remodel with the proposed addition of 901 square feet of office space. The façade remodel, as shown in the new elevation, includes a new entry tower, storefront, and a 603-square-foot front display canopy. The existing service canopy will be demolished and replaced with a new 2,649-square-foot service canopy. Building permits were issued last week.



Existing dealership.



Artist rendering of the remodel.



Development Services notes

Planning staff signed off on Phase II of **The Grove at Mesa Del Mar**, generally bounded by El Camino Drive, Mendoza Drive, Coronado Drive and centered around Palmetto Way ... This small lot residential project features two, two-story floor plans with 3- and 4-bedroom units, ranging from 2,165 square feet to 2,383 square feet with attached garages ... Two homes have been sold with construction of the last phase to begin upon the sale of two additional homes ... The opening of **Sprouts Farmers Market** in the 200 block of East 17th Street (formerly the **Mother's Market** location) got the green light last week by the Planning Division ... The market is scheduled to open Aug. 10.

Making History

Which Costa Mesa local won a City contest more than 20 years ago to name the open space along Placentia Avenue adjacent to Estancia High School "Fairview Park"?

- A. Hank Panian
- B. Trina Moorlach
- C. Betty Jean Beecher
- D. Joe Erickson
- E. J.A. Yorba

Answer: B. When Trina came up with the name, her husband – Supervisor John Moorlach – told her she would never win with a "dumb name" like that. This wouldn't be the last time John was wrong.



Fairview Park.

Fire Department

The **Costa Mesa Fire Assn.** officially endorsed contracting with the **Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA)** for the City's fire services ... The association said it favors Option 3, which would close down Fire Station No. 2 in the 800 block of Baker Street ... The Council on Tuesday asked for negotiations to continue on the OCFA proposal and also for Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for fire services to be sent out ...

The Fire Department is joining community volunteers **Angie** and **Chris Edgerly** and the **Soles4Souls Foundation** to collect new and gently used shoes for men, women and children affected by disasters ... Shoes and sandals of all sizes are needed and can be dropped off during business hours at all fire stations and the 5th floor, Fire Administration office at City Hall through July 31 ... Collected shoes will be distributed to disaster victims in Missouri, Alabama, Japan and Haiti ...

Here's an emergency preparation tip: Carry a local city map in your vehicle and in your grab-and-go emergency bag ... And if you are traveling this summer take a few moments to gather safety information about your destination ... You can stop by the local Chamber of Commerce and pick up a map that will show landmarks, local hot spots and city facilities.



Secret Spotted

The Diego Sepulveda, or Estancia Adobe, was built around 1820, making it-by far-the oldest standing building in Costa Mesa. The adobe originally served as a temporary shelter for vaqueros herding cattle for the Mission San Juan Capistrano. Tours of the building (in Estancia Park at 1900 Adams Avenue) take place on the first and third Saturday of each month.

Police Department



National Night Out set for Aug. 2

On Aug. 2, the City of Costa Mesa and its **Police Department** will be participating in the **28th Annual National Night Out**, a program to heighten crime prevention awareness, strengthen neighborhood spirit and public safety/community partnerships.

National Night Out will be celebrated locally with block parties, barbecues, ice cream socials and informal gatherings to unite local neighbors and take a stance against crime.

The participating communities include the 700 block of Shalimar, 800 block of Center Street, 2200 block of Fountain Way East, 1700 block of Santa Ana Avenue, 400 block of W. Bay Street, 2100 block of Federal, 1800 block of Whittier, and the 900 block of W. 17th Street.

There will also be a large event at **Harbor Trinity Church**, 1230 Baker Street, beginning at 6 p.m.

Police Department notes

The City Council approved a proposal Tuesday to have the **Police Department** charge \$10 to sign off on fix-it tickets except to Costa Mesa residents who will continue to get the service for free ... The police chief soon will be giving monthly crime reports during council meetings ... A proposal for a private-public partnership to revive the shuttered Airborne Law Enforcement (ABLE) helicopter program has been posted on the City's website ... You can read it [here](#).



Public Services

Improvements made at Senior Center

The first of several improvements funded through the federal **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program** was recently completed at the **Costa Mesa Senior Center**. Decorative wrought iron fencing and gates were added to exterior alcoves at the center to remedy the problems created by transients camping, storing their bicycles and belongings, and creating unsanitary conditions.

The improvements will also discourage loitering and improve the overall environment for the seniors in the community that frequent the Senior Center.

Other projects that the CDBG Program will be funding in the near future are the rehabilitation of the wood dance floor and stage and the rehabilitation of the partition walls in the large multi-purpose room.

Renovations underway at David Field

The **Public Services Department** this month began the renovation of **Davis Field** at **Lions Park**. Improvements include the installation of energy-efficient, ballfield lighting, protective netting on the south and west side of the field, and new vinyl coated fencing. Davis Field is used by various community sports organizations for baseball, softball, and soccer games.

The new lighting system will provide better field coverage and reduce the amount of light and glare that may spill into the properties adjacent to the field. Funding for the project is provided by the **Costa Mesa Redevelopment Agency's** Capital Improvement budget. The project is scheduled for completion by mid-August.

For more information, please contact Bart Mejia, parks project manager, at 714.754. 5291.



Joann Bike Trail opens with rave reviews

The \$1.3 million (all grant funds) Joann Bike Trail along Harbor Boulevard opened this month with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and has been packed with cyclists and walkers ever since. At night, the path's stylish lighting especially dresses up that section of Harbor Boulevard.